



Policy No. 103

Residential Habilitation Centers (RHCs)

Adopted: November 15, 1991

The Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council, being concerned with the health and safety of all people with developmental disabilities and their families in Washington, recommend the continuation of funding the downsizing process of RHCs. The downsizing process should focus first on the closure of Interlake. The downsizing process should be concentrated and strategic to ensure services in all RHCs are stable during the downsizing or closure process to meet individual needs effectively. We recommend that when budget cuts occur they should be distributed across each DSHS budget section with the priority of keeping community programs viable and maintaining opportunities for productivity, independence, and integration.

We also reaffirm the January 1991, Council decision on downsizing and closure of RHCs. (see below)

January 25, 1991 Council decision on downsizing and closure of RHCs:

It is the position of the Developmental Disabilities Council that: 1) the Legislature should pursue a policy on downsizing IMR/RHCs with the goal of eventually closing institutions contingent upon development of adequate and appropriate programs and facilities; 2) that the Legislature should create appropriate state-operated and community-operated programs to support developmentally disabled citizens; and 3) that the Legislature should pursue the appropriate federal waivers to make downsizing and subsequent community service plans financially and programmatically successful.

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